Societies at Crossroads – Historical Documents

Ottoman Documents **DOCUMENT 1**

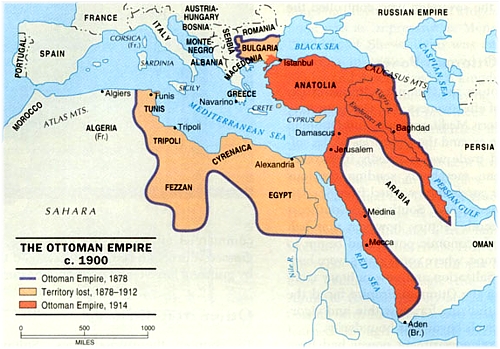
**Sir William Eton: A Survey of the Turkish Empire, 1799**

Besides that the Turks refuse all reform, they are seditious and mutinous; their armies are encumbered with immense baggage, and their camp has all the conveniences of a town, with shops etc. for such was their ancient custom when they wandered with their hordes. When their sudden fury is abated, they are seized with a panic, and have no rallying as formerly. The cavalry is as much afraid of their own infantry as of the enemy; for in a defeat they fire at them to get their horses to escape more quickly. In short, it is a mob assembled rather than an army levied. They have no systematic attack, defense, or retreat; no accident foreseen, nor provided for...

The artillery they have, and which is chiefly brass, comprehends many find pieces of cannon; but they are ignorant of its management. Their musket-barrels are much esteemed but they are too heavy; nor do they possess any quality superior to common iron barrels which have been much hammered, and are very soft Swedish iron. The naval force of the Turks is by no means considerable. Their grand fleet consisted of not more than seventeen or eighteen sail of the line in the last war [Russo-Turkish war of 1787-92], and those not in very good condition; at present their number is lessened.

The present reigning Sultan, Selim III, has made an attempt to introduce the European discipline into the Turkish army, and to abolish the body of the Janissaries. [He has] declared his intention of abolishing the institution of Janissaries. This step, as might be expected, produced a mutiny, which was only appeased by the sultan's consenting to continue their pay during their lifetimes; but he at the same time ordered that no recruits should be received into their corps. Their officers are all Turks and are chosen out of those who perform their exercise the best

OTTOMAN EMPIRE CIRCA 1700 OTTOMAN EMPIRE CIRCA 1900



**DOCUMENT 2**

**Charles K. Tuekerman, The Greeks of Today. 1878. Discussing the Greek war for Independence from Ottomans, 1821-1830.**

The first blow for Greek independence was struck in April 1821. The fires of revolution had been kindled for many years, but the inflammatory materials were collected and dispersed with such secrecy and vigilance---the chief instruments being the orthodox clergy, who whispered of hope and freedom in the pauses of their prayers. The Porte heard the cry of battle with a smile of derision. What were poorly armed and undisciplined Greeks to accomplish against the glittering phalanxes of the Sultan? Europe heard it, and looked on with apathy at the hopelessness of the struggle. It was the United States which first responded to the resolution of the Greek Senate at Calamata, which declared "that having deliberately resolved to live or die for freedom, they were drawn by an irresistible sympathy to the people of the United States." The Greeks fought single-handed, with valor in their hearts, wretched flint locks in their hands, and dissensions in their midst. As a Greek historian puts it, "David, scarcely armed with a sling, attacked the formidable Goliath." After a conflict corresponding to that of our seven years' war, not only in duration, but in many of its hardships, England and France came to the aid of the wretched and worn-out revolutionists, and, at the eleventh hour, accomplished the independence of a small portion of Greek territory.

**Document 3**

**Document 4**

**Convention of Commerce at Balta Limani, Extension of the Capitulations between British and Ottomans, 1838**

Art. I. All rights privileges, and immunities which have been conferred on the subjects or ships of Great Britain by the existing capitulations and treaties, are confirmed now and for ever

Art. II. The subjects of Her Britannnic Majesty, or their agents, shall be permitted to purchase, at all places in the Ottoman dominions, (whether for the purposes of internal trade or exportation) all articles, without any exception whatsoever

Art. III. If any article of Turkish produce, growth, or manufacture be purchased by the British merchant, for the purpose of selling the same for internal consumption in Turkey, the British merchant or his agent shall pay, the same duties that are paid, by the most favoured class of Turkish subjects engaged in the internal trade of Turkey.

Art VI. … the Turkish Government also agrees not to object to other foreign powers settling their trade upon the basis of this present convention.

Art. I. All articles of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and its dependencies, all merchandise, embarked in British vessels, and being the property of British subjects, or being brought over land, or by sea, from other countries by the same, shall be admitted, as heretofore, into all parts of the Ottoman dominions, without exception, on the payment of three per cent. duty, calculated upon the value of such articles.

**Document 5**

**Gulhane Decree, Beginning the Tanzimat Reform Era, 1839**

But in the last one hundred and fifty years, because of a succession of difficulties and diverse causes, the sacred Muslim law was not obeyed; consequently, the former strength and prosperity have changed into weakness and poverty. It is evident that countries not governed by the laws of Islam cannot survive...Thus, full of confidence in the help of the Most High and certain of the support of our Prophet, we deem it necessary and important from now on to introduce new legislation to achieve effective administration of the Ottoman Government and Provinces. Thus the principles of the requisite legislation are three:

1. The guarantees promising to our subjects perfect security for life, honor, and property. 2. A regular system of assessing taxes 3. An equally regular system for the conscription of requisite troops and the duration of their service.

If man enjoys perfect security, it is clear that he will not depart from ways of loyalty and all his actions will contribute to the welfare of the government and of the people …….Tax assessment is also one of the most important matters to regulate. A state, for the defense of its territory, manifestly needs to maintain its borders, the costs of which can be defrayed only by taxes levied on its subjects. Although thank God, our Empire has already been relieved of the affliction of monopolies, the harmful practice of tax-farming [iltizam]\* for if the tax-farmer is not of good character he will be interested only in his own profit and will behave oppressively. Military matters, as already pointed out, are among the most important affairs of state, and it is the inescapable duty of all the people to provide soldiers for the defense of the fatherland [vatan]. It is therefore necessary to frame regulations and to reduce the term of military service to four or five years………..Thus, from now on, every defendant shall be entitled to a public hearing, according to the rules of the Muslim law and no one may secretly or publicly put another to death by poison or by any other means.

\*Tax-Farming is a tax system in which the collector is paid on a commission basis which led to corruption.

**Document 6**

**“Tough on Turkey”, Puck Magazine (British Publication) 1885**



Caption: England and Russia together: “Be my ally, or I’ll give you the worst thrashing of your life.”

\*England = Lion; Russia = Bear in political cartoons.

**Document 7**

**The Young Turks: Proclamation for the Ottoman Empire 1908.**

**2**. Provided that the number of senators does not exceed one-third the number of deputies, the Senate will be named as follows: one-third by the Sultan and two-thirds by the nation, and the term of senators will be of limited duration.

**3**. It will be demanded that all Ottoman subjects having completed their twentieth year, regardless of whether they possess property or fortune, shall have the right to vote.

**7.**The Turkish tongue will remain the official state language. Official correspondence and discussion will take place in Turkish.

**9.**Every citizen will enjoy complete liberty and equality, regardless of nationality or religion, and be submitted to the same obligations. All Ottomans, being equal before the law as regards rights and duties relative to the State, are eligible for government posts, according to their individual capacity and their education. Non-Muslims will be equally liable to the military law.

**10.**The free exercise of the religious privileges which have been accorded to different nationalities will remain intact.

**14.**Provided that the property rights of landholders are not infringed upon (for such rights must be respected and must remain intact, according to law), it will be proposed that peasants be permitted to acquire land, and they will be accorded means to borrow money at a moderate rate.

**17.**All schools will operate under the surveillance of the state… and all nationalities will be admitted. Instruction in Turkish will be obligatory in public schools. In official schools, public instruction will be free. Secondary and higher education will be given in the public and official schools indicated above; it will use the Turkish tongue. Schools of commerce, agriculture, and industry will be opened with the goal of developing the resources of the country.

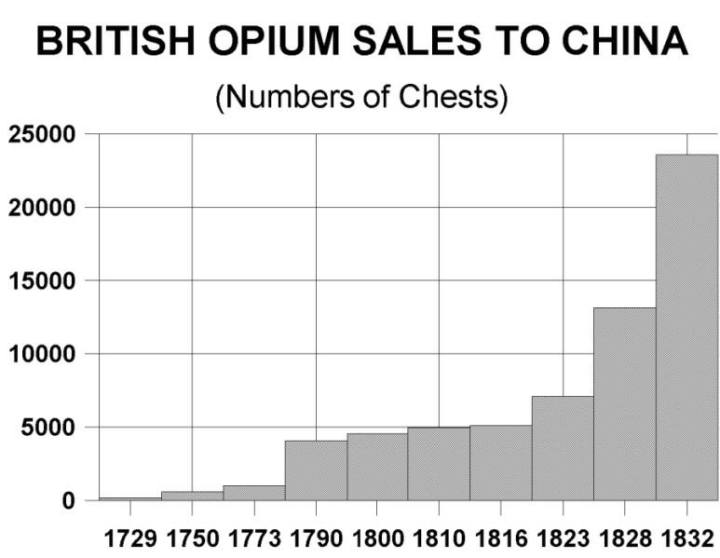
**18.**Steps shall also be taken for the formation of roads and railways and canals to increase the facilities of communication and increase the sources of the wealth of the country. Everything that can impede commerce or agriculture shall be abolished.

Documents on China **Document 1**

**Qian Long, Chinese Emperor, Letter to King George III. 1793**

Swaying the wide world, I have but one aim in view, namely, to maintain a perfect governance and to fulfil the duties of the State: strange and costly objects do not interest me. If I have commanded that the tribute offerings sent by you, O King, are to be accepted, this was solely in consideration for the spirit which prompted you to dispatch them from afar. Our dynasty's majestic virtue has penetrated unto every country under Heaven, and Kings of all nations have offered their costly tribute by land and sea. As your Ambassador can see for himself, we possess all things. I set no value on objects strange or ingenious, and have no use for your country's manufactures.

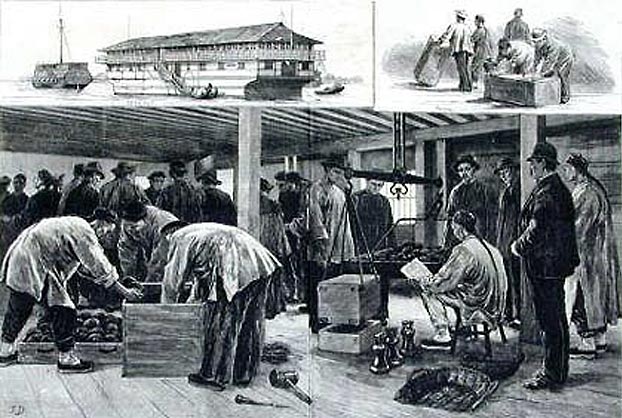
**Document 2**



**Document 2**

**Document 3**

**Upper Left- Chinese Holding Ship. Rest of picture shows unloading and selling of opium to Chinese intermediaries. Holding ship could hold opium on it like a warehouse for months at time.**



**Document 4**

**Commissioner Lin, appointed by Chinese emperor to rid China of Opium trade, letter to Queen Victoria. 1839.**

….during the commercial intercourse which has existed so long, among the numerous foreign merchants resorting hither, are some, who, by means of introducing opium by stealth, have seduced our Chinese people, and caused every province of the land to overflow with that poison. These then know merely to advantage themselves, they care not about injuring others! This is a principle which heaven's Providence finds unacceptable; and which mankind conjointly looks upon with disgust! Moreover, the great emperor hearing of it, actually quivered with outrage, and especially dispatched me, the commissioner, to Canton, that in conjunction with the viceroy and lieut.-governor of the province, means might be taken for its suppression! Every native of the Inner Land who sells opium, as also all who smoke it, are alike adjudged to death. Were we then to go back and take up the crimes of the foreigners, who, by selling it for many years have induced dreadful calamity and robbed us of enormous wealth, and punish them with equal severity, our laws could not but award to them absolute annihilation…

P. S. We annex an abstract of the new law, now about to be put in force.

"Any foreigner or foreigners bringing opium to the Central Land, with design to sell the same, the principals shall most assuredly be decapitated, and the accessories strangled; and all property (found on board the same ship) shall be confiscated. The space of a year and a half is granted, within the which, if any one bringing opium by mistake, shall voluntarily step forward and deliver it up, he shall be absolved from all consequences of his crime."

**Document 5**

**Lord Palmerston, Letter to Chinese Government. 1840**

  Now, although the Law of China declared that the importation of Opium should be forbidden, yet it is notorious that for many years past, that importation has been connived at and permitted by the Chinese Authorities at Canton. If the Chinese government did know these things, it virtually abolished its own Law, by permitting its own officers to act as if no such Law existed. If the Chinese government now determines to uphold that law they should do so against their own citizens first but in fact are doing the exact opposite. A large number of British Merchants who were living peaceably at Canton, were suddenly imprisoned in their houses, deprived of the assistance of their Chinese servants, and cut off from all supplies of food, and were threatened with death by starvation, unless other persons, in other places, and over whom these Merchants so imprisoned had no authority or control, would surrender to the Chinese Government a quantity of Opium which the Chinese Authorities were unable themselves to discover or to take possession of.. due to these circumstances the British Government therefore has determined at once to send out a Naval and Military Force to the Coast of China to act in support of our demands. The Commander of the Expedition has received orders that, immediately upon his arrival upon the Chinese Coast, he shall proceed to blockade the principal Chinese ports

**Document 6**

**Treaty of Nanjing, signed after the British victory over China in the first Opium War, 1842. (First unequal treaty**

**Article II** -the  Emperor  of  China  agrees  that  British  Subjects,  with  their  families  and  establishments,  shall  be  allowed  to  reside,  for  the  purpose  of  carrying  on  their  commercial  pursuits, without molestation or restraint at the Cities and Towns of Canton, Amoy, Foochow‑ fu,  Ningpo,  and  Shanghai…

**Article III** - It being obviously necessary and desirable, that British Subjects should have some Port whereat  they  may  -careen  and  refit  their  Ships,  when  required,  and  keep  Stores  for  that purpose,  His  Majesty the Emperor of China cedes to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, etc., the Island  of  Hong‑Kong…

**Article V** -The Government of China having compelled  the British Merchants  trading  at Canton to deal  exclusively with certain Chinese Merchants called Hong merchants (or Cohong) who had been  licensed by  the Chinese Government for  that purpose,  the Emperor of China agrees  to abolish  that practice in  future  at  all Ports where British Merchants may  reside,  and  to permit  them  to  carry  on  their  mercantile  transactions  with  whatever  persons  they  please..

**Article X** - His Majesty the Emperor of China agrees to establish all the Ports which are by the 2nd Article  of this Treaty to be thrown open for the resort of British Merchants, a fair and regular Tariff of  Export  and  Import  Customs  and  other  Dues

**Document 7**

**Hung Xiuquan, excerpts from the Land system of the heavenly kingdom, Taiping Rebellion’s economic program 1851-1864.**

- The division of land must be according to the number

of individuals, whether male or female; calculating

upon the number of individuals in a household, if they

be numerous, then the amount of land will be larger,

and if few, smaller; and it shall be a mixture of the nine

classes

- All men and women, every individual of sixteen years

and upwards, shall receive land, twice as much as

those of fifteen years of age and under.

- Throughout the empire the mulberry tree is to be

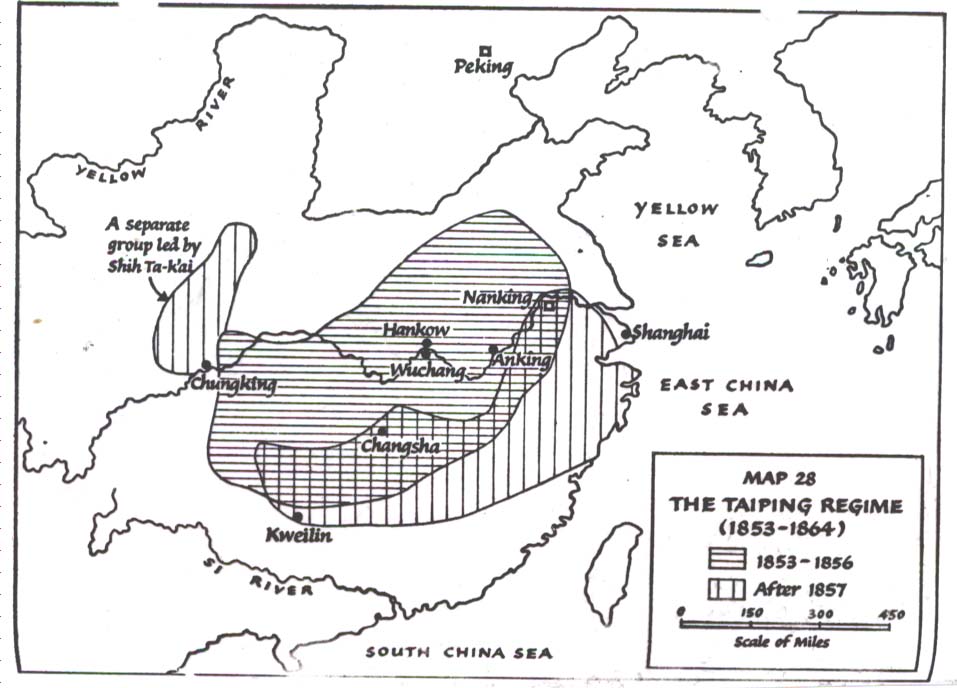
planted close to every wall, so that all women may

engage in rearing silkworms, spinning the silk,

and making garments.

- In every circle of twenty­five families, all young boys must go to church every day, where the sergeant is to teach them to read the Old Testament and the New Testament,

- In  conducting  the  different  kinds  of  festival  ceremonies  for  the  twenty‑five  families  under  his  administration,  the  Group  Officer  should  hold  religious  services  to  pray  to  the  Heavenly  Father,  the  Supreme Ruler  and Lord God‑on‑High. All  the  bad  customs  of  the past  must be completely abolished.

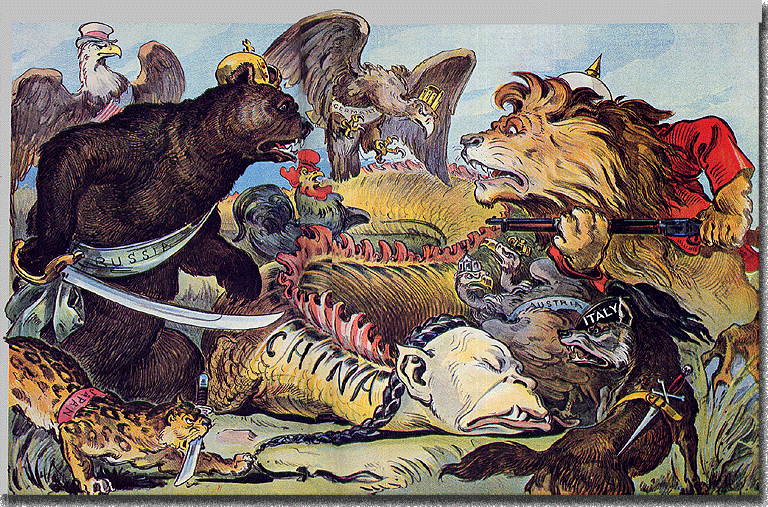


**Document 8**

**Document 8**

**Excerpts from “On the Adoption of Western Learning” By Feng Guifen. Circa 1850. Inspiring the Self-Strengthening Movement.**

Books  on  mathematics,  mechanics,  optics,  light,  chemistry,  and  others  all  contain  the  ultimate principles of understanding things. Most of this information is unavailable to people in  China. … I  have  heard  that  with  their  new  methods  the  Westerners  have  found  that  the  movements  of  the  earth  conform  closely  to  those  of  the  heavens.  This  can  be  of  assistance in  fixing the calendar. … I have heard that the Westerners’ method of clearing sand from harbors  is very effective. … This can be  of  assistance  to keep  the water  flowing. Also,  for  agricultural  and  sericultural  tools,  and  things  required  for  the  various  crafts,  they mostly  use mechanical  wheels, which require little energy but accomplish much. … There are many intelligent people in China. Surely there are some who, having learned  from the barbarians, can surpass them …



**Document 9**



**Document 10 Document 11**

**Excerpts from Comprehensive Consideration of the Whole Situation By Kang Youwei . 1898. Begins the 100 Days Reforms.**

A survey of all the states in the world will show that those states that undertook reforms  became strong while those states that clung to the past perished. … Our  present  trouble  lies  in  our  clinging  to  old  institutions  without  knowing  how  to  change. In an age of competition between states, to put into effect methods appropriate to an era  of universal unification and laissez‑faire is like wearing heavy furs in summer or riding a high  carriage across a river. … It is  a principle of  things  that  the new is  strong but  the old is weak. … Moreover, our  present institutions are but the unworthy vestiges of the Han, Tang, Yuan, and Ming dynasties  … In fact, they are the products of the fancy writing and corrupt dealing of petty officials rather  than  the original ideas of the ancestors. After studying ancient and modern institutions, Chinese and foreign, I have found that  the  institutions  of  the  sage  kings  and  the  Three  Dynasties  [of  Xia,  Shang,  and  Zhou]  were  excellent, but that ancient times were different from today. … … I beg Your Majesty to adopt the purpose of Peter the Great of Russia as our purpose  and to take the Meiji Reform of Japan as the model for our reform.

**“China- The Cake of Kings and Emperors. (Britain, Germany, Russia, France and Japan)**



**Document 12**

**Luella Miner, professor at American College in China, Account of the Boxer Rebellion. 1900**

**June 15:** About ten o'clock the most horrible noise began in the southern city, just on the opposite side of the city wall. It was a horde of Boxers going through their rites, burning incense, crying, "Kill the foreign devils! Kill the secondary foreign devils! (Christians). Kill! Kill! Kill!" They called other things, but I could only distinguish the "kill!" There may have been from twenty to fifty thousand voices, not all Boxers, swelling that mad tumult. After two or three hours the noise suddenly ceased

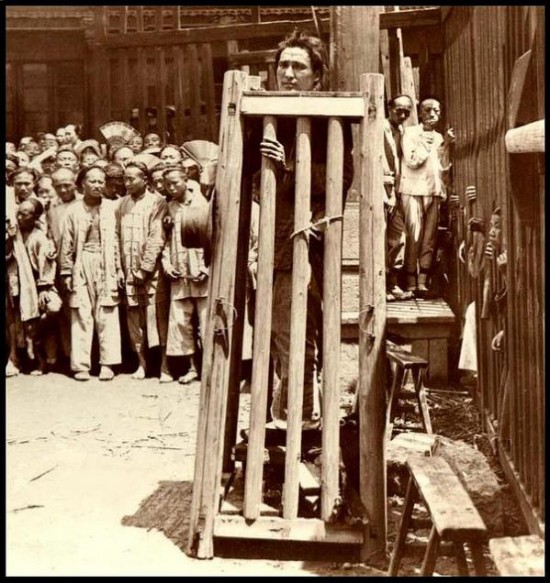
**August 14:** At last our ears have heard the sweet music for which we have been listening for two months - the cannonading of the relief army - so plainly that we know that intense desire and imagination are not deceiving us, as so many times before. Our deliverance is at hand

It was a little after two in the afternoon, as I was sitting writing under the trees in the tennis-court, where I have spent so many hours during these past weeks, when an American marine from the city wall ran into the yard shouting, "The troops are inside the city - almost here!" All that afternoon the troops came streaming in, Sihks, Bengal Lancers; English soldiers, and, most welcome of all, our American boys."

\*Boxer Rebellion ended in 1901 with China having to pay $330,000,000 in damages to Europeans.

**Document 13**

**Boxer Rebellion supporters executed in various methods. Here a man stands on several pieces of wood while his neck is attached to a rope. Over several days the wood would be removed or he won’t be able to stand any longer……..**



Documents on Japan **Document 1**

**US President Millard Fillmore, Letter to Japanese Emperor, 1852.**

I  have directed  Commodore Perry  to  assure  your imperial majesty  that  I entertain  the  kindest feelings towards your majesty’s person and government, and that I have no other object  in  sending  him  to  Japan  but  to  propose  to  your  imperial  majesty  that  the  United  States  and  Japan should live in friendship and have commercial intercourse with each other.

We know  that  the ancient laws of your imperial majesty’s government do not allow of  foreign trade, except with the Chinese and the Dutch; but as the state of the world changes and  new governments are formed, it seems to be wise, from time to time, to make new laws. There  was a time when the ancient laws of your imperial majesty’s government were first made.

These  are  the  only  objects  for  which  I  have  sent  Commodore  Perry,  with  a  powerful  squadron, to pay a visit to your imperial majesty’s renowned city of Edo: friendship, commerce,  a supply of coal and provisions, and protection for our shipwrecked people.

**Document 2**

**Commodore Matthew Perry, letter sent with a white flag to Japanese Emperor, 1853**

For years several countries have applied for trade, but you have opposed them on account  of a national law. You have thus acted against divine principles and your sin cannot be greater  than it is. What we say thus does not necessarily mean, as has already been communicated by  the Dutch boat, that we expect mutual trade by all means. If you are still to disagree we would  then  take up  arms  and inquire into  the  sin  against  the divine principles,  and  you would  also  make  sure  of  your law  and  fight in defense. When  one  considers  such  an  occasion,  however,  one will realize the victory will naturally be ours and you shall by no means overcome us. If in  such  a  situation  you  seek  for  a  reconciliation,  you  should put up  the white  flag  that we have  recently presented to you, and we would accordingly stop firing and conclude peace with you,  turning our battleships aside.

**Document 3 Document 4**

Shimazu Hisamitsu, Daimyo of Satsuma and an ally of the Choshu daimyo in his revolt against the shogun, a petition to the Shogun, 1866

“Since last year signs of great civil disturbance have appeared. On several occasions armies have been moved, commoners have been killed, and now peasant uprisings beak out in Tamba and Yamato (provinces) and riots occur in Hyogo, Osaka, and Edo (cities). As the Shogun is presently in Osaka, his august command and military might should be shining forth in all directions; on the contrary, the merchants and lowly people at his very feet break the law without regard for his authority. This is the result of what is called “a misery so great that life is unbearable” and it is an intolerable situation.”

**Campaign map of the Boshin War (1868–69). The western domains of Satsuma, Chōshū and Tosa joined forces to defeat the Shogunate forces effectively ending it.**



**Document 5**

**Emperor Meiji, Letter to US President Grant, 1871.**

Mr.  President:  Whereas  since  our  accession  by  the  blessing  of  heaven  to  the  sacred  throne  on  which  our  ancestors  reigned  from  time  immemorial,  we  have  not  dispatched  any  embassy to the Courts and Governments of friendly countries. We have thought fit to select our  trusted  and  honored  minister,  Iwakura  Tomomi,  the  Junior  Prime  Minister  (udaijin),  as  Ambassador  Extraordinary  …  and  invested  [him]  with  full  powers  to  proceed  to  the  Government  of  the  United  States,  as  well  as  to  other  Governments,  in  order  to  declare  our  cordial  friendship,  and  to  place  the  peaceful  relations  between  our  respective  nations  on  a  firmer  and  broader  basis. The period  for  revising  the  treaties now existing  between  ourselves  and the United States is less than one year distant. We expect and intend to reform and improve  the same so as to stand upon a similar footing with the most enlightened nations, and to attain  the full development of public rights and interest. The civilization and institutions of Japan are  so  different  from  those  of  other  countries  that we  cannot  expect  to  reach  the  declared  end  at  once.  It  is  our  purpose  to  select  from  the  various  institutions  prevailing  among  enlightened  nations  such  as  are  best  suited  to  our present  conditions,  and  adapt  them in  gradual  reforms  and improvements of our policy and customs so as to be upon an equality with them. With this  object we desire to fully disclose to the United States Government the constitution of affairs in  our  Empire,  and  to  consult  upon  the means  of  giving  greater  efficiency  to  our institutions  at  present and in  the future, and as soon as  the said Embassy returns home we will consider  the  revision of the treaties and accomplish what we have expected and intended. …

**Document 6**

**Meiji Constitution of 1889, Governing document of Japan during Meiji Period.**

**ARTICLE  I**.  The  Empire  of  Japan  shall  be  reigned  over  and  governed  by  a line  of  Emperors  unbroken for ages eternal.

**ARTICLE V**. The Emperor exercises the legislative power with the consent of the Imperial Diet

**ARTICLE  IX**.  The  Emperor  issues  or  causes  to  be  issued,  the  Ordinances  necessary  for  the  carrying out of  the laws, or  for  the maintenance of  the public peace and order, and  for  the promotion of the welfare of the subjects. But no Ordinance shall in any way alter any  of the existing laws.

**ARTICLE XIII.**The Emperor declares war, makes peace, and concludes treaties.

**ARTICLE XXIV.**No Japanese subject shall be deprived of his right of being tried by the judges  determined by law.

**ARTICLE XXV.**Except in  the cases provided  for in  the law,  the house of no  Japanese  subject  shall be entered or searched without his consent

**ARTICLE XXIX.** Japanese  subjects  shall, within  the limits  of law,  enjoy  the liberty  of  speech,  writing, publication, public meetings and associations.

**ARTICLE XXXIII.**The Imperial Diet shall consist of two Houses, a House of Peers and a House  of Representatives.

**ARTICLE XXXIV.**The House of Peers shall, in accordance with the Ordinance concerning the  House  of  Peers,  be  composed  of  the members  of  the  Imperial  Family,  of  the  orders  of  nobility, and of those persons who have been nominated thereto by the Emperor. **ARTICLE XXXV.**The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members elected by the  people, according to the provisions of the Law of Election.

**ARTICLE XXXVII.**Every law requires the comment of the Imperial Diet.

**Document 7**

***Up to Date Business*, a magazine for international businessmen, published New York, 1900 CE**

The significant thing about Japan is the rapidity with which it has become transformed from a semi-civilized nation into one of the great nations of the modern world. Until the year 1868 Japan was an unprogressive, unenlightened country of the usual Asiatic type, scarcely differing in any way from an inland province of China of to-day. In that year a revolution took place which put the whole power of the empire into the hands of the present Mikado, or Emperor. Immediately Japan began to assimilate Western ideas of civilization and to adopt Western methods of trade, commerce, manufacture, government, and education. Until 1889 the government remained an absolute monarchy. In that year the Mikado voluntarily promulgated a constitution by which a legislative Parliament, or "Imperial Diet," and an executive Cabinet of State Ministers were instituted, so that the government of Japan is now as "constitutional" as that of Germany or Great Britain. The government is in other ways thoroughly modern. Education, for example, is almost as well looked after as in Germany or New England.

**Document 8**

**“Japan” David Murray, Ph.D., LL.D., Late Advisor to the Japanese Minister of Education, New York, 1896**

Several causes contributed to the creation of a special interest in the United States of America, concerning the opening of negotiations with Japan. One of these was the magnitude *(great size)* to which the whale fishery had attained (grown), and the large financial investments held in this industry by American citizens. A second cause was the opening of China to foreign trade as a result of the opium war. But the most active cause was the discovery of gold in California in 1848, and the consequent development of that state as a centre of trade. It was an early scheme to run a line of steamers from San Francisco to the newly opened ports of China. To Hongkong the distance is about 6,149 nautical miles, and if a steamer is to traverse the whole distance without a break, she must carry an enormous load of coal. The only remedy lay in establishing a coaling station on the Japanese islands, and this could only be effected when Japan abandoned her policy of seclusion and entered with a free heart into the comity of nations.

**Document 9**

***Up to Date Business*, a magazine for international businessmen, published New York, 1900 CE**

The future of Japan depends upon its manufactures. The principal manufactures of Japan as yet are the textiles, especially silk and cotton. The production of textiles by machinery has increased fourfold in ten years, and now amounts to about $40,000,000 annually. This, however, is not a large amount, being less than the textile production of any important state in Europe It follows, therefore, that textile manufacturing in Japan, especially the manufacture of cotton and wool, is not yet out of its tentative or probationary stage. But Japan, having the advantage of an extensive home market for cotton goods (like the Chinese, the Japanese common people wear cotton garments all the year round, in winter padding them for warmth), and having the raw material at her own door (she already grows a large proportion of all the raw cotton she needs), and having, too, an abundance of coal at hand, must needs become a great cotton-manufacturing country. The same conditions hold with regard to the possibilities of Japan's silk manufactures.

**Document 10**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Millions of Lbs |
| 1884 | 5 |
| 1894 | 117 |
| 1904 | 278 |
| 1914 | 666 |

PRODUCTION OF COTTON YARD IN JAPAN (Both hand and machine spun)

Data from the Japanese Imperial Cabinet Bureau of Statistics

Societies at Crossroads - Discussion Organizer

**Directions**: As you prepare for the discussion fill in the chart below with information from the documents. Be sure to cite which document you used so you can return to it during the discussion and annotate the documents for further use as evidence. ALSO ADD TO IT DURING THE DISCUSSION.

**Objective**: Students will demonstrate mastery of 19th century Asian history by constructing an argument as to whether the 19th century should be better known as a time of European rise or of Asian decline.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Asian Empire | Evidence supporting Asian decline | Evidence supporting European Rise | Asian Empires Reform’s  Western inspired/original? |
| Ottoman Empire |  |  | **Tanzimat Reform**  **Young Turks** |
| Qing Dynasty |  |  | **Taiping Proposed Reforms**  **Self-Strengthening Movement** |
| Asian Empire | Evidence supporting Asian decline | Evidence supporting European Rise | Asian Empires Reform’s  Western inspired/original? |
| Qing Dynasty  (con’t) |  |  | **100 Days Reforms** |
| Meiji Japan |  |  | **There are many changes the Japanese make bullet point them here:** |

Assessing the 19th century Reforms of Asian Empires.

NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

During the discussion you will be rating the relative success and or failure of the attempted reforms of the Asian Empires.

**Ottoman Empire**

Summarize the reforms of the Ottomans.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Qing Dynasty**

Summarize the reforms of the Qing. .

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Meiji Japan**

Summarize the reforms of the Ottomans.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Continuum of Reform:** Place each one of the Asian Empires on the continuum below by rating the success of their reforms. 1 being completely unsuccessful and 10 being highly successful.

Successful

Moderately Successful

Unsuccessful

10

5

1

Societies at Crossroads Exit Slip NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You are now going to construct your argument to the question: Should the 19th century be better known as a time of European rise or of Asian decline?

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